



Pearl Harbor

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Joint exercise

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Desert Lightning News

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Head of House Armed Services Committee visits D-M



The head of the House Armed Services Committee Rep. Ike Skelton, D-Mo., visited D-M Airmen and their families, along with Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords for missions briefings Saturday.

“The very high regard in which the American public holds our military forces is shared throughout the Congress. We are truly blessed to have the (caliber) of men and women serving us in uniform that we do.”

— The Hon. Ike Skelton



The head of the House Armed Services Committee Rep. Ike Skelton, D-Mo., speaks to the media after his mission briefings with Davis-Monthan Base leadership and Airmen.

Story and photos by Shelly A. McGuire Desert Lightning News Editor

The head of the House Armed Services Committee Rep. Ike Skelton, D-Mo., visited Davis-Monthan Airmen and their families Saturday for a series of mission briefings, along with Southern Arizona's Democratic Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

“As issues come forward it's really important to understand the value of the men and women who serve us in Southern Arizona and the implications worldwide,” Congresswoman Giffords said.

Base leadership held several important briefings with the officials.

“I have been looking forward to having Congressman Skelton and Congresswoman Giffords visit our Airmen at Davis-Monthan,” said 355th Fighter Wing Commander. Col. Kent Laughbaum.

Congressman Skelton is the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, and having him join Congresswoman Giffords, on a visit to the base, provided us with a valuable opportunity to discuss important issues to the Air Force.”

After completing the series of mission briefings and meeting with D-M Airmen, Congressman Skelton said, “(My) impression is fantastic. I'm so glad I came out here. More than impressive. The work that they do here and the complexity of the work that they do, the various missions and the caliber of the people you find here, is outstanding.”

“People like this want to become part of the military, so that in the decades ahead we will not only have the weapon systems, the intelligence systems, the electronic systems, we will have the finest people in America wanting to be part of it. That's our job,” he said.

As chairman of the Armed Services Com-

mittee, Skelton plays a highly influential role in determining the policies governing military personnel, equipment, operations and strategic planning for the U.S. Armed Forces. Congressman Skelton is responsible for crafting the Defense Department's \$500 billion annual budget.

Congresswoman Giffords, who represents Southeastern Arizona's 8th Congressional District, is the only Arizona Democrat on the 62-member Armed Services Committee. She also serves on its Readiness and Air and Land Forces subcommittees.

“The wars of the future are going to be fought in different ways. And for the United States to protect our assets, to defend our nation, to protect and defend our interests worldwide, we are going to have to think a little differently about how we do that. Davis-Monthan and the 162nd (Air National Guard) are really on the cutting edge of that change,” Congresswoman Giffords said.

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day



The U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron Thunderbirds fly over the U.S.S. Missouri and the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial in Honolulu, Hawaii, Sept. 13. "On the morning of December 7, 1941, America was attacked without warning at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, by the air and naval forces of Imperial Japan," said President George W. Bush in his proclamation. "More than 2,400 people perished and another 1,100 were wounded, triggering our entry into World War II. Today, we honor those killed (66) years ago and those who survived to fight on other fronts in the four succeeding years of world war. We also remember the millions of brave Americans who answered our country's call to the battlefield, to the factory and to the farm, remembering Pearl Harbor by their deeds, their devotion to duty and their willingness to fight for freedom. The attack at Pearl Harbor fired the American spirit with a determination that freedom would not fall to tyranny; and the United States and its allies fought to victory, preserving a world in which democracy could grow. The tragedy of December 7, 1941, remains seared upon our collective national memory, a recollection that serves not just as a symbol of American military valor and American resolve, but also as a reminder of the presence of evil in the world and the need to remain ever vigilant against it," the President said.

Photo illustration by Kristi LaBonte and Shelly A. McGuire

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Staff

Publisher.....Paul Kinison
Business ManagerLisa Kinison
Managing Editor.....Stuart Ibberson
Advertising Representative.....Diane Hasse
Subscriptions and Delivery.....Chris Ramos

Editor.....Shelly A. McGuire
Photojournalist.....Kristi LaBonte

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Limited-edition painting donated to Doolittle CAOC

Tech. Sgt. Kerry Jackson
12th Air Force and Air Forces Southern
Public Affairs

A limited edition painting capturing the courageous actions of the famed "Doolittle Raiders" during the 1942 raid on Japan was donated to the General James H. Doolittle Combined Air and Space Operations Center here Monday.

The painting, created by world-renowned aviation artist William S. Phillips, titled *West Bound: A Date with the General*, is a visual history of the United States' response to the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on Dec. 7, 1941 in which 2,333 Americans were killed and 1,139 injured.

Lt. Gen. Norman Seip, commander 12th Air Force and Air Forces Southern, and Maj. Gen. (Retired) David Jones, one of the original Doolittle Raiders, and the first commander of 12th Air Force, accepted the painting from Count Ferdinand von Galen, the chairman of

the Arizona Aerospace Foundation, who donated the painting after a chance finding at a recent auction.

"12th Air Force and ASOUTH greatly appreciate the contributions made by Count Ferdinand von Galen and the Pima Air and Space Museum honoring and recognizing the legacy of General Jones and the Doolittle Raiders," said General Seip. "This painting captures the spirit of the Raiders and helps to ensure future generations of CAOC staff remember and reflect upon the significant contributions of these heroic Airmen."

The CAOC, which was officially dedicated and named in May 2006 after the first commander of the Doolittle Raiders, General James H. Doolittle, is the "nerve-center" for the Combined Forces Air Component Commander and serves as the hub for all air and space activities during combat and humanitarian operations.

Count Galen said during a short speech he was delighted to donate such a rare painting

to an important organization like the Doolittle CAOC as the command continues to embody the character of the original Raiders in their work around the world.

The painting is currently on display in the Doolittle CAOC.

Twelfth Air Force is responsible for seven active-duty wings and three direct reporting units comprising 33,000 active-duty military and 1,200 guard and reserve personnel in the western and Midwestern United States. AFSOUTH overseas Air Force assets, five forward operating locations and civil and military engagements in the USSOUTHCOM area of responsibility. The command conducts many of its operations from the James Doolittle CAOC at Davis-Monthan where operations planning, execution and assessment directed by the Combined Air Component Commander are conducted. AFSOUTH has forward operating locations in Apiay, Aruba, Curacao, Manta, Muñiz and Soto Cano.



Count Ferdinand von Galen presents a limited edition painting, *West Bound: A Date with the General*, to Lt. Gen. Norman Seip, commander 12th Air Force and Air Forces Southern, and to Maj. Gen. (retired) David Jones, one of the original Doolittle Raiders, and the first commander of 12th Air Force. The painting, created by world-renowned aviation artist William S. Phillips, captures the courageous actions of the famed "Doolittle Raiders" during the 1942 raid of Japan. The painting, according to Count von Galen, was donated to the James H. Doolittle Combined Air and Space Operations Center because the command continues to embody the character of the original Raiders in their work around the world.

Tax credits can fund Borman programs, field trips

Compiled by Desert Lightning News
Staff Writers

In 1998, the State of Arizona passed a law allowing taxpayers to direct up to \$200 (\$400 if filing jointly) of state taxes, as a tax credit, to a designated school to support extra curricular activities.

Davis-Monthan's Borman Elementary School relies on these funds to pay for many different programs.

"It seems that every year we hear about how schools never have enough money or never get enough money from the State to fund school programs — especially extracurricular activities," said Chad Knippen, Borman principal. "The good news for schools is we have a way to get extra money from State taxes and the money is given directly to the school."

The way this works is the taxpayer donates (up to the maximum amount by Dec. 21) the last day the school office is

open this calendar year. When the donor files his State income taxes the following year, the amount of tax due is reduced dollar-for-dollar by the amount donated to the school.

According to the official state Web site, if the allowable tax credit exceeds the taxes due or if there are no taxes due, the taxpayer may carry the amount forward for up to five consecutive taxable years' income tax liability.

"It is a great way to get money from the state into schools to support children," said Mr. Knippen. "You don't need to have a student at this school to get this credit. Anyone who pays Individual Arizona state income taxes can do this."

Principal Knippen has set a goal of receiving \$15,000 in tax credit donations this year.

"Last year we received just over \$11,000," he said. "We met our goal and were able to hire a Physical Education

instructor who works with all of the students at Borman."

Other items funded or partially funded with tax-credit money include: PE equipment, three Tucson Symphony Orchestra Presentations and a field trip for more than 200 students to see a live concert, a portable sound system for the school, new speakers for the cafeteria, field trips to the University of Arizona Museum of Art, the Pima Air and Space Museum, the Arizona Science Museum in Phoenix; a winter program for the fourth and fifth grade, Science presentations for all students as well as a History performance.

"The more people (who donate) the more money we can direct to extracurricular activities," Mr. Knippen said.

For more information call (520) 584-4600 or visit <http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ars/43/01089-01.htm>.

Photo by Senior Airman Jesse Shippis

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D-M celebrates A Starry

By Kristi LaBonte
Desert Lightning News Photojournalist

A Starry Snowy Southwest Night celebration, featuring a base tree-lighting ceremony was hosted by the 355th Services Squadron and the base chapel at Davis-Monthan Tuesday.

Singer Mark Trudeau entertained Airmen, Veterans and Retired military, along with their families and guests, as they participated in holiday festivities including 50 tons of snow, hay-rides, hot chocolate and cookies, craft-making stations and sponsor tables.

Winners for the Housing Holiday Lights, Dorm decorating and Squadron Greeting Card contests were announced and gift baskets awarded.

An Air Force Rescue fire truck arrived with sirens wailing, delivering Col. Kent Laughbaum, 355th Fighter Wing commander, along with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Introduced by Chap. (Lt. Col.) Daniel Figueroa and Chap. (1st Lt.) Douglas Hess, Col. Laughbaum joined Santa Claus, Maria Pasamante, 563rd Operations Support Squadron Resource Advisory, and her two daughters Veronica and Ariana, in flipping the switch; lighting the base Christmas tree.

Airmen and their families continued celebrating the beginning of the holiday season throughout the remainder of the evening.

Davis-Monthan Airmen's children make snowballs and play in 50 tons of snow.

Photos by Shelly A. McGuire and Kristi LaBonte

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Free Comedy Show

The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club will host a free "all ranks" comedy show tonight at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 228-3100.

Breakfast with Santa

D-M Youth Programs will host "Breakfast with Santa" for children and their parents tomorrow at the Mirage Officers' Club. There will be two seatings: 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Enjoy FREE breakfast, pictures with Santa, holiday crafts and face painting. Sign up by Dec. 7. For more information, call 228-8844.

Mutt Mingle Jingle

The Private Animal Care Clinic will host "Mutt Mingle Jingle" Sat, Dec. 15 from 10 a.m. to noon. Enjoy Christmas cookies while your pets get pictures with Santa. FMI call 228-3529.

Real Time Communication Center

The Base Library offers a Real Time Communication Center so friends and family can communicate with loved ones with real-time video and audio. FMI, stop by the library or call 228-4381.

Stay at the Inn on Davis-Monthan!

Family or friends coming to town? Looking for a safe place to stay after your holiday party at the club? Lodging has extended their space available reservations policy so you can make

your plans today. For reservations, call 228-3230 or 748-1500.

Football Frenzy 2007 at the Desert Oasis

With two more exciting weeks of Football Frenzy Fun at the Desert Oasis, club members of all ranks still have time to enter for a chance to win an NFL dream trip for two to Super Bowl XLII in Glendale, Arizona or the 2008 Pro Bowl in Honolulu, Hawaii, plus end-of season bonus drawings for \$5,000 in gift certificates! Enjoy beverage specials in the Shockwave, food from Cabanas, games, contests and prizes including gift certificates, Arizona Cardinals tickets, NFL team prizes, tee shirts, hats, and more.

♦NFL Sunday Ticket! Catch all the games on NFL Sunday Ticket in the Shockwave! Doors open at 10 a.m. Remaining club dates: Dec. 9 & 16.

♦Texas Hold'em! Catch the games and play Texas Hold'em at noon for great prizes!

♦Monday Night Football! Remaining club games: Dec. 10 - NO at Atl, Dec. 17 - Chi at Minn.

♦Thursday Night Football: Remaining club games: Dec. 13 - Den at Hou, Dec. 20 - Pit at St Lou.

♦Super Bowl XLII is Feb. 3. Make plans now for the big Super Bowl Party at the club! For more information, call 228-3100.

Deployed Spouses Dinner

The Desert Inn Dining Facility invites spouses and children of deployed military personnel to

dinner every Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m. Family members of E-4 and below pay basic cost; E-5 and above and officer dependents pay standard rate (basic cost plus surcharge). FMI call 228-5501.

Retiree & Family Member Meals

Retirees and their family members are authorized to eat at the Dining Facility on federal holidays and Saturdays. Meal cost is standard rate (basic cost plus surcharge). FMI call 228-5501.

Community Center offers FedEx

The Community Center offers FedEx shipping Mon. through Fri. Packages are delivered in 1, 2, or 3 business days to more than 210 countries. For FedEx Express, packages checked before 2 p.m. go out the same day. FMI call 228-3700.

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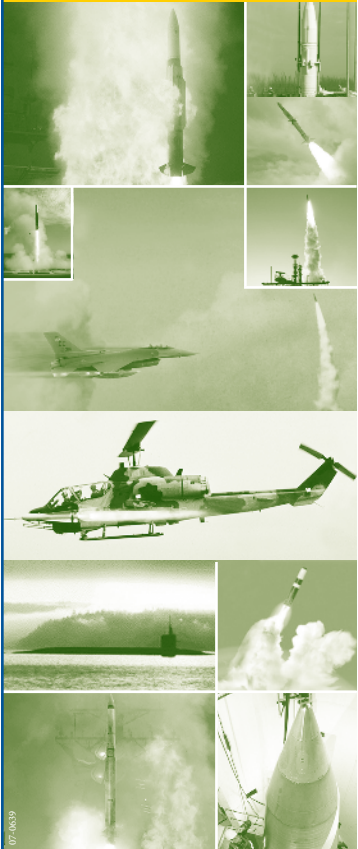
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Retiree & Veteran NEWS

FOR RETIREES, VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Holiday deadlines rapidly approaching for troop parcels

DALLAS (AFRNS) — While the holidays may still seem far away, Americans hoping to show their support to deployed troops must be aware of some rapidly approaching deadlines. According to the Military Postal Service Agency, mail going parcel post must have been sent by Nov. 14, while first-class mail must be sent by Monday to arrive by Dec. 25.

Besides deadlines, several other factors must be considered when sending mail to deployed troops. For example, each country has customs regulations that apply to all incoming mail, pertaining to everything from food items to reading materials. Furthermore, military units may also have additional restrictions imposed by unit commanders concerning mail size and weight for logistical reasons. Finally, all packages and mail must now be addressed to individual servicemembers as required by U.S. Department of Defense regulations.

To help ease the mailing process and avoid many of the obstacles that come with the traditional care packages, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service created "Gifts from the Homefront." This campaign allows anyone to make a direct and tangible contribution to military morale with a gift certificate that can be redeemed for nearly anything a specific servicemember wants.

"A package from home is certainly nice, but cookies get stale and fragile electronics can break," said Lt. Col. Dean Thurmond, AAFES' chief of communications. "A 'Gift from the Homefront' gift certificate can alleviate a great deal of burden for the post office and sender while ensuring Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Sailors are able to get exactly what they desire or need."

AAFES currently operates 53 facilities in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring

Freedom. Recent reports indicate troops shopping their contingency exchanges are reaching for beauty items, soft drinks, snacks, prepaid calling cards, magazines, movies and more.

"Gifts from the Homefront" can be sent to deployed troops by visiting <http://www.aafes.org/> or by calling (877) 770-4438.

From there, the gift certificates are sent to individual servicemembers as designated by the purchaser, or distributed to "any servicemember" through groups such as the Air Force Aid Society, American Red Cross, Fisher House, or USO.

"Gifts From the Homefront" gift certificates can be redeemed at exchange facilities worldwide. As of Sept. 30, approximately 92,900 "Gifts from the Homefront" gift certificates have been sent since the Department of Defense approved the exchange support campaign in March 2003. *(Courtesy of AAFES)*

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D-M hosts joint-tactical exercise



By Senior Airman Jacqueline Hawkins
355th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Approximately 50 members of the 355th Security Forces Squadron, Tucson Unified School District, Tucson Police Department SWAT team, and other local agencies participated in a joint training exercise held on Davis-Monthan Air Force Base at Lowell H. Smith Elementary School Monday.

"The event was designed to provide a training environment for police first responders in a highly stressful environment involving an active shooter incident," said Kevin Johnson, 355th SFS trainer.

With the event involving a little more than three months of planning, special care was taken to develop each training scenario, such as hostage situation, explosive hazards, and engagement of an active shooter.

"We conduct this training with TPD and other agencies about every quarter," Mr. Johnson said. "The training is broken up into a class room day and an exercise day."

"Ever since the Columbine School shooting, law enforcement has had to change its doctrine and tactics when faced with active shooter situations," said Mr. Johnson. "It also gives our unit valuable training time with local police agencies and builds solid working relationships with each other."

The training exercise also provided another benefit for the airmen and local law enforcement agencies.

"With limited budgets we can do more by pooling resources and manpower to make realistic training scenarios for our police and security forces' first responders," said Mr. Johnson.

With upcoming Air Expeditionary Force rotations and on going temporary duty assignments this training is necessary to aid where needed.

"This training is a great opportunity for our squadron members to learn different tactics and a way of dealing with active shooter situations at home station or it could also be used at some deployed locations," said Mr. Johnson.



A member of the Tucson Police Department relays valuable information to participants in the joint-tactical training exercise Monday at Lowell H. Smith Elementary School. The exercise tested the tactical capabilities of the 355th Security Forces Squadron, Tucson Police Department and SWAT team members.

Participants, in the first round of scenarios, cautiously round a corner at Lowell H. Smith Elementary School at Davis-Monthan Monday during a joint-tactical exercise. The team encountered numerous "explosive devices," an "active shooter" and a "hostage situation" as part of their training exercise.

309 AMARG inducts last F-4E, RF-4C to assume drone role

By Rob Raine
309 AMARG

Although there is little difference in the regeneration process between the F-4E and the RF-4C, the start of the regeneration process on 309 AMARG's last F-4E represents the end of an era.

"There will be no more F-4Es generated," said Don Hookstra, F-4 regeneration program branch chief. "The two aircraft served the Air Force in very different missions."

McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft developed the F-4E (pictured bottom) fighter by essentially improving the F-4D with an upgraded engine and the addition of a 20mm "Vulcan" cannon. These improvements, coupled with the addition of a seventh fuel cell and several weight-saving modifications improved the F-4E's combat capabilities against the MiG-17s and 21s in the skies over wartime Vietnam.

In the early 1960s the Air Force identified a need for more tactical reconnaissance aircraft to reinforce the RF-101s then in service. The Air Force chose a modification of the F-4C fighter. The RF-4C (pictured center) flew for the first time in 1964. The aircraft carried a variety of cameras within its nose section. It could take photos day or night at both high and low altitudes. This longer, sleeker-appearing nose section helps to distinguish the aircraft outwardly.

Although the regeneration process is virtually the same, flying the RF-4C presents 309 AMARG's flight test crew, Lt Col Jon Wendell and Mr. Rick Nelson (pictured top), with some very different challenges.

"The RF-4C is a 'hard wing', meaning that its wing does not have leading-edge slats," said Lt Col Wendell. Slats provide better stability and handling at slow speeds and high angles of attack (when the aircraft is "nose-high"). As a result, control inputs

that turn the F-4E would cause a stall and possibly a spin if used on the RF-4C.

"At low speeds and high angles of attack, we use the rudder to roll the aircraft," Lt Col Wendell said. "This is critical in the final turn before landing when the jet is slow



control (BLC) system. Because the BLC system requires engine power to function, it changes the landing process, requiring that Lt Col Wendell and Mr. Nelson land the RF-4C at higher speeds than the previous F-4Es.

and close to the ground. Even a slight stall would leave no margin for error."

When the McDonnell-Douglas company upgraded the F-4E, they reduced weight by removing the ram air turbine, or RAT, an auxiliary power system. However, the RAT remains a feature of the RF-4C and is capable of providing backup power if the electrical system fails.

"During the functional check flight for the RF, we turn the generators off, deploy the RAT, and evaluate its operation," Lt Col Wendell said. "In the F-4E we didn't touch the generators."

Lt Col Wendell also explained that the sleeker configuration of the RF-4C reduces drag so it uses fuel more efficiently, although the flight times

remain about the same because the RF-4C has one less fuselage fuel tank than the F-4E models.

Finally the RF-4C ducts hot, high-pressure air over the wings to reduce drag and increase lift in a process known as a boundary layer control (BLC) system. Because the BLC system requires engine power to function, it changes the landing process, requiring that Lt Col Wendell and Mr. Nelson land the RF-4C at higher speeds than the previous F-4Es.

Additionally, Mr. Nelson noted, "The bleed air is HOT. Hot enough to damage the wing and its internal plumbing. We don't want it on until the aircraft is cleared for

take off or flying." For that reason they taxi the RF-4C with flaps closed and the BLC system off.

New emergency procedures for the BLC represent just one more essential piece of knowledge Lt Col Wendell and Mr. Nelson have to know in order to safely transition from the last of the F-4Es into the RF-4C aircraft.

"We have regenerated two RF-4Cs already," said Mr. Hookstra. Those aircraft certified the RF regeneration and functional check flight processes. Lt Col Wendell and Mr. Nelson have already delivered both aircraft.

Seasons Greetings to all from the 309 AMARG Team

This year's 309 AMARG's entry in the Davis-Monthan holiday card competition was designed and painted by Mr. Tommy Bledsoe. Normally a woodworker at the Group, Mr. Bledsoe is temporarily assigned as a graphic artist within the 309 AMARG Business Liaison Office. The full-sized card will join other competitors on Davis-Monthan proper for the duration of the holiday season.



Wishing you happiness, joy, and especially a **SAFE** holiday

Col Tony Panek,
309 AMARG
Commander



High operations tempos define today's Air Force both at home and forward-deployed. As a result, all of our Airmen – active duty, reserve, civilian, even families and retirees face the dual enemies of fatigue and complacency.

Holiday time multiplies our risk by adding to our already busy schedules and increasing fatigue, and by drawing our minds away from tasks at hand to anticipation of gathering with families and friends in celebration. Yet a single moment's inattention can provide the opening for disaster to strike.

We preach safety, safety, safety throughout the year. We remind ourselves to "be a good Wingman" and watch out for our fellow Airmen. We urge the use of "risk assessment" to gain an edge against hazards. Those admonitions are more than just the buzzwords of the day, they're some of our best weapons against fatigue and complacency.

Daily rush hour to and from work, school, day-care, or the flight-line can be bad enough at normal times. It redoubles during the holidays when people

find themselves frazzled in an effort to complete that shopping list, or get to the annual social, to get an early jump on an overloaded workday, or even just get home ahead of the crowd.

Please, give yourself the gift of time. Plan ahead, give yourself a bit more time to negotiate your way around town at this time of year. A trip that normally takes 45 minutes, now might take an hour. That gift of time will ensure that you make it through this holiday season. It is a gift to yourself, and a gift to all of your fellow Airmen – YOU are important and we count on you.

Don't forget those risks unique to the holiday season. We may laugh at the slap-stick and pratt-falls by Chevy Chase in *Christmas Vacation*, or Tim Allen in the *Santa Clause* movies, and those caused by Macaulay Culkin in the *Home Alone* series. Clark Griswold dangling from his roof by Christmas lights, Scott Calvin knocking Santa off the roof, blasts of sparks from overloaded circuits, slips on ice, or bonks from falling buckets of bricks all make us laugh, or wince with a smile. Yet those funny movie antics mean a trip to the emergency room, or a visit from the fire department if they happen in real life, and they're all preventable.

Candles, oil lamps, and holiday lighting add beauty and feelings of tradition to the holidays, but they require

maintenance and proper use. Don't overload circuits with too many lights –light strings come with labels describing the maximum safe number. A candle or oil lamp that tips over can turn a joyous celebration into a tragedy in an instant. Fireworks? Since they're illegal for home use in Arizona, they shouldn't even be an issue – yet every year area fire departments and paramedics respond to the results of their illegal use.

So please, give yourself the gift of time this holiday season, take a moment to assess potential risks, to be safe, to watch-out for your Wingman. These holidays have important religious and spiritual meaning for their followers. They also offer a time when families and friends gather together to celebrate, enjoy one-another's company, eat, drink (sometimes), and be merry. Don't let the pre-holiday, hurry-up world extinguish the light of the season. Remember, our great Nation and our Mighty Air Force needs EVERY ONE OF YOU.

On behalf of the 309 AMARG team, I wish you all a wonderful and joyous holiday season.

Happy Holidays
from the
309 AMARG Team

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Three away, two to go for C-130 team



309 AMARG's Medium Aircraft Section delivered their third of five C-130s in late November. The cargo aircraft are being regenerated under the foreign military sales program. The C-130s fly from 309 AMARG to an outside contractor for additional modifications before being delivered to an overseas U.S. ally.

Farewell to WWII Hero



309 AMARG bids farewell to Retired Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets Jr., the pilot of the first atomic bombing mission, who died of natural causes Nov. 1 at the age of 92 in Columbus, Ohio.

The general was the pilot of "the Enola Gay," the B-29 Superfortress which dropped the first atomic bomb, "Little Boy" on Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945, which many historians consider the end of World War II.

Enola Gay (pictured below) was named for the general's mother. The B-29 was stored at the facility that became 309 AMARG for several years after WWII.



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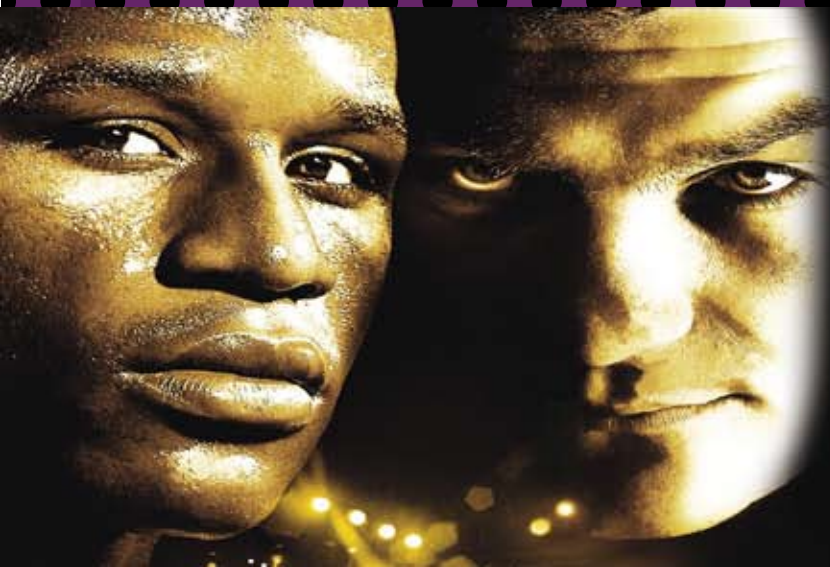
Tickets on-sale: November 30th at 10:00am

VIP Tickets: \$125.00 (reserved seat)

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Academy accepts bid to Armed Forces Bowl



Photo by Staff Sgt. Monte Volk

U.S. Air Force Academy z-back Chad Hall finds running room thanks to a block by quarterback Shaun Carney during Air Force's 41-24 win over Notre Dame Nov. 10 at South Bend, Ind.

FORT WORTH, Texas (AFPN) — U.S. Air Force Academy officials have accepted a bid to play in the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl on New Year's Eve at Fort Worth, Texas.

The Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl, an ESPN regional television owned-and-operated event, will be aired at 11:30 a.m. CST on ESPN, live from Amon G. Carter Stadium.

The previous four Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl games have been played on December 23 with the University of Utah defeating the University of Tulsa 25-13 last year.

"We are thrilled to have the Air Force Academy as the Mountain West Conference's representative in the 2007 game," said Tom Starr, the executive director of the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl. "With our military theme, what better way is there to honor the armed forces by having an Academy play in our game. With nine wins and a strong finish to their season, the Falcons will bring an exciting brand of football to Amon G. Carter Stadium on New Year's Eve."

With three-straight wins and six victories in their last seven games to end the 2007 season, the Falcons are the first school since the inaugural Bell

Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl game in 2003 to enter the Amon G. Carter Stadium game with more than seven regular-season wins. The Academy is currently 9-3 this fall after posting a 55-23 win at home Nov. 18 over San Diego State.

The 9-3 record is Air Force's first winning season since posting a 7-5 mark in 2003. The Falcons' six wins in Mountain West Conference play is their most ever and best league record since finishing the 1998 season with a 7-1 record in the Western Athletic Conference.

The Falcons have the second-best rushing attack in the country (298.5 yards per game) to rank among the top 10 in the nation for the 21st-straight season. The Falcons won the national rushing title in 2002 (307.8) when Air Force played in their last post-season game by losing 20-13 to Virginia Tech at the 2002 Emerald Bowl in San Francisco.

Troy Calhoun also becomes the third first-season coach at the Air Force to lead the Falcons to a post-season bowl game following in the footsteps of Ben Martin in 1958 and Fisher DeBerry in 1984. A 1989 graduate of the Academy, Calhoun replaced DeBerry

last December as only the sixth coach in the 52-season history of Air Force football.

The first Academy graduate to coach the Falcons, Calhoun was an active duty officer in the Air Force from 1989 to 1995, and was the school's recruiting coordinator and the junior varsity offensive coordinator in 1993 and 1994. An assistant for one season for the NFL's Houston Texans before taking the Air Force job, Calhoun started at quarterback for the Academy in 1986 and was one of only two freshmen to letter for the 1985 team that finished fifth in the final polls with a 12-1 record that included wins over national powers Notre Dame and Texas.

Appearing in its first post-season game since 2002, the Air Force will be competing in their 18th bowl since the start of their intercollegiate football program in 1956.

While z-back Hall is the only player in the country to lead his team in rush-

ing (1,415 yards and 14 touchdowns to rank ninth nationally) and receiving (488 for 46 receptions and one touchdown), Air Force quarterback Shaun Carney has become the Academy's all-time passing leader as a four-year starter by breaking records this season for passing yardage (5,323), passing touchdowns (38) and total yardage (7,776).

Ticket prices for the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl are \$40 for sideline seats and \$15 for end zone tickets. Military veterans receive half off any \$40 seat and active duty members get in free via the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl corporate military ticket underwriting program. A portion of local ticket sales will go to designated military charities. Tickets for this year's game can be obtained by calling the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl office at 817-810-0012, or visit <http://www.ArmedForcesBowl.com> for more information.



Photo by Vanessa Gempis

U.S. Air Force Academy z-back Chad Hall tries to evade Notre Dame's John Ryan in the Falcons' 41-24 victory over the Irish Nov. 10 in South Bend, Ind. U.S. Air Force Academy officials have accepted a bid to play in the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl on New Year's Eve at Fort Worth, Texas.

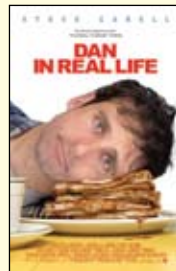
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Fall — best time to get influenza vaccinations

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFRNS) — Fall is the best time to get the flu vaccination in the United States, according to health officials. This gives the body a chance to build up immunity before the winter flu season.

“Tricare beneficiaries should check with their local military treatment facility or primary care manager to find out when and where they are offering the flu vaccine,” said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director of the Tricare Management Activity. “All beneficiaries are encouraged to protect themselves against this potentially deadly virus.”

Influenza kills about 36,000 Americans each year, and leads to about 200,000 hospitalizations, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

It is strongly recommended that the following people get vaccinated each year: all children aged 6 months to their 5th birthday; adults aged 50 years and older; persons with underlying chronic medical conditions; pregnant women; health care workers involved in direct patient care; child care and elderly care workers; and persons at high risk for severe complications from influenza.

Tricare will cover the flu shot for beneficiaries,

as long as it is administered in a doctor's office.

Flu shots administered in a civilian pharmacy or drugstore are not covered by Tricare. For Tricare for Life beneficiaries, Medicare covers flu vaccinations and Tricare would pay as second payer, if needed.

Tricare covers two types of vaccinations; the inactivated vaccine containing a killed virus and given with a needle, and the nasal-spray flu vaccine made with live, weakened flu viruses that do not cause the flu.

For more information about influenza visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>. (Courtesy of Tricare)

Flu Shot Line Today

There will be a Flu shot line at the enlisted club today from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Those eligible to participate must be 12 years or older and include:

- Military Personnel
- Non-Active Duty with Retired Military ID Cards
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D-M News Notes

Scholarships

The Officers' Spouses' Club, Enlisted Spouses' Association and First Command scholarship applications are now available. Applications are available for graduating high school students, Spouse's Undergraduate Studies and Spouse's Graduate Studies. Applicants must be a dependent of active duty, Retired, National Guard, Reserves, or deceased member of any branch of the Armed Forces. Applications will be available at the Officers and Enlisted clubs, Base Education Office, Family Support Center, Community Center and Thrift Shop or by e-mailing kvbowman88@yahoo.com for a downloadable application. Please specify which application you need. High school seniors may also pick up an application from their high school guidance counselor. Applications must be postmarked by February 28, 2008 for consideration. For more information, call Kathleen Bowman at 299-3840 or e-mail her at kvbowman88@yahoo.com.

TRICARE For Life briefings

TRICARE For Life briefings will be held Monday at 9 a.m. and again at 1 p.m. in the D-M Community Center 3775 S. 5th St. Building 4201. These briefings are for TRICARE eligible beneficiaries, especially those nearing age 65 or above, who have questions or require more information about this program. A TRICARE representative and 355th Medical Group personnel will host the briefings, summarizing the "TRICARE For Life" program. Briefings last approximately one hour. A question and answer period will follow. For more information call Mr. Bill Howard at 228-2634.

D-M changes new prescription processing location

New prescriptions are now processed at the Clinic Pharmacy and all refills will continue to be processed at the base exchange Community Pharmacy. The Clinic Pharmacy hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The base exchange Community Pharmacy hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. except the third Thursday of every month when both close at 1 p.m. for training.

Waiting Warriors

Everyone is invited to attend a Waiting Warriors meeting, which can benefit the spouses of the base and chapel community. Members share with each other the challenges and joys of being a military spouse and can find support during deployments and Temporary Duty Assignments, while building new friendships. Meetings take place every other Tuesday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Desert Dove Chapel. Also offered is, "It's a Dog's Life" children's program for ages four years to fifth grade.

For more information, e-mail Angie Bacon at waiting-warriors@yahoo.com or call the base chapel at 228-5411.

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Air Force Personnel Center News Service

AF accepting physician assistant applications

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force is taking applications from active duty enlisted Airmen for Physician Assistant Phase I training classes beginning January, April and August 2009.

Completed applications must arrive at HQ AFPC/DPAMW, 550 C Street West, Suite 27, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4729 no later than Jan. 25. The selection board is scheduled to convene at the Air Force Personnel Center here March 19.

Incomplete applications or those received after the cutoff date will be returned and will not meet the selection board, according to AFPC officials.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be on active duty in the grade of E-3 through E-8 with a minimum of two years and

a maximum of 14 years active military service as of Aug. 31, 2009;

- Meet age limitations specified in Air Force Instruction 36-2005 for appointment as second lieutenants in the Biomedical Sciences Corps (less than 42 years of age upon completion of Phase II training);

- Have taken the Scholastic Aptitude Test within five years of the board date, with a minimum score of 450 for all areas, and a minimum combined score of 1,425 in critical reading, verbal and math;

- Have a minimum general score of 80 points on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery or Air Force Classification Test; and

- Have completed 60 semester hours of

transferable college credits and a grade point average of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale. Thirty of these semester hours must be actual in-classroom courses at an accredited college or university and must be completed by March 10. A combined minimum 3.0 GPA is required in the math and science courses. Thirty semester hours may be met from CLEP, CCAF, DANTES, USAFI correspondence courses, end-of-course test or specific subject examination.

For more information, contact the local military personnel flight, education office or logon to the AFPC Web site and enter physician assistant training in the search function.

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Davis-Monthan worship schedule and events

Catholic

- Saturday Mass at 5 p.m. at the Desert Dove Chapel.
- Sunday Mass at 9:45 a.m. at the Desert Dove Chapel.
- Monday through Friday — 11:30 a.m. at the Desert Dove Chapel

Protestant

- Traditional Service is Sunday at 8 a.m. at the Hope Chapel.
- Desert Lightning Fellowship (Contemporary Service) is Sunday at 9:45 a.m. at the Hope Chapel.
- Inspirational Gospel Service is Sunday at 11:30 a.m. at the Hope Chapel.

- Children's church will be held for young children (at parents' discretion) during each worship service.

Dorm Worship Service

- CBNR (Church But Not Really) This Worship Service meets in the Ground Floor day room, Dorm 3500, Sundays at 6:30 p.m. Come by at 5:30 p.m. for a home cooked meal.

Prayer Warriors

Everyone is invited to attend a Prayer Warriors meeting each Tuesday morning in the Hope Chapel sanctuary, beginning at 11 a.m.
For more information, call 228-5411.

Christmas Cantata

Everyone is invited to a Christmas Cantata tonight at 7 p.m. in the Desert Dove Chapel, followed by a reception with cookies and hot chocolate.

For more information, call Chaplain Assistant Staff Sgt. Jenny Coburn at 228-5411.

PWOC Bible study

The Protestant Women of the Chapel join for music, fellowship and Bible study every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:45 a.m. at the Desert Dove Annex.

Children's ministry is provided.

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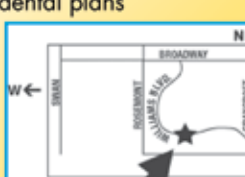
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Mustangs gear up for Best of the West Tournament



The Davis-Monthan Mustangs played in a thriller against the Luke Falcons Dec. 1 when they were defeated 78-83. Lead scorer for the Mustangs was Derrick Jackson with 28 points followed by Steve Newton with 21 points. This match-up prepared the Mustangs for the upcoming Best of the West Tournament Jan. 18-21 2008, which will be held at the D-M main fitness center.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Samuel Hubbard

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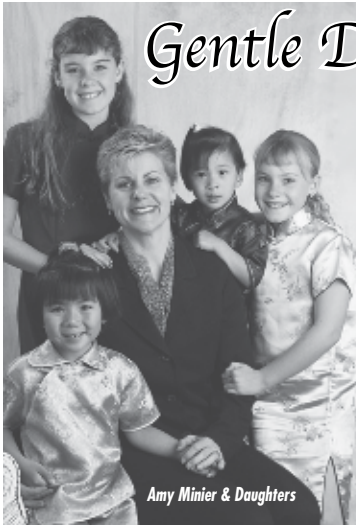
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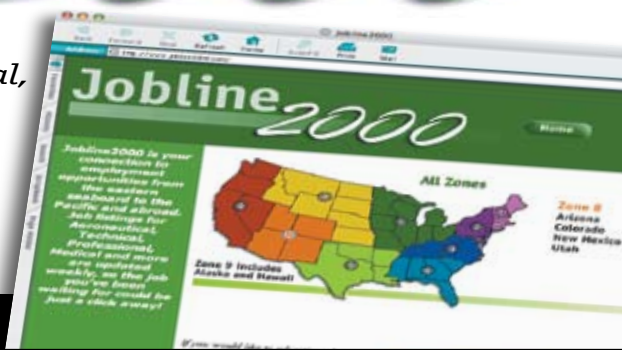
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